Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 09451 141941Z

73

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 RSR-01 /108 W

----- 086010

R 141729Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6170

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 9451

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT. IN

SUBJ: GOA AFTER BANDODKAR

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO CALCUTTA MADRAS FROM BOMBAY DTD 13 AUG 73 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

R 130044Z AUG 73 FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY TO RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 8061 INFO RUSBTA/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 1367 RUSBAS/AMCONSUL MADRAS 1402

CONFIDENTIAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 1592

E. O. 11652 N/A TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJ; GOA AFTER BANDODKAR

1. A PERIOD OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY IS LIKELY TO FOLLOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE DEATH AUGUST 12 OF GOA'S CHIEF MIN AND STRONGMAN

BANDODKAR. BANDODKAR HAS BEEN A UNIFYING AND DOMINATING FORCE IN GOA AND HAS BEEN PRINCIPALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TERRITORY'S POLITICAL STABILITY THESE PAST 12 YEARS. THERE IS NO ONE IN HIS RULING HINDU-DOMINATED MARASHTRAWADI GOMANTAK PARTY (MGP) OF COMPARABLE STATURE TO ASSUME LEADERSHIP ROLE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MGP CAN AGREE ON BANDODKAR'S DAUGHTER AND MEMBER GOA CABINET, MRS. SHASHIKALA KAKODKAR, AS NEXT CM AND THIS WE UNDERSTAND WAS WHAT BANDODKAR HOPED TO SEE HAPPEN ONE DAY BUT WHILE HE STILL AROUND AND IN POSITION INFLUENCE SITUATION. IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES DOUBT IF MRS. KAKODKAR WILL BE ABLE HOLD MGP TOGETHER FOR LONG OR MAINTAIN IT AS GOA'S RULING PARTY. WE THINK MGP LIKELY NOW BECOME PREY INTERNAL FACTIONAL STRIFE AND THAT PRESSURE MERGE WITH CONGRESS AS EARLIER DESIRED BY BANDODKAR AND PROBABLY ENCOURAGED BY DELHI WILL LIKELY MOUNT.

- 2. WE DO NOT SEE THE OPPOSITION PARTY, THE CHRISTIAN-DOMINATED UNITED GOANS PARTY (UGP) BENEFITTING FROM BANDODKAR'S DEMISE SINCE UNLIKELY SUFFICIENT NUMBER WOULD SWITCH FROM HINDU MGP TO CATHOLIC UGP IN ORDER ENABLE LATTER BECOME MAJORITY PARTY GOAN LEGISLATURE. HINDU-CATHOLIC POSITIONS PRECLUDE THIS IN OUR ESTIMATION.
- 3. CONGRESS STANDS TO GAIN MOST FROM BANDODKAR'S DEMISE PROVIDED PRESENT FACTION-RIDDEN GOA CONGRESS LEADERSHIP ABLE CLOSE RANKS AND EXPLOIT SITUATION. CENTRE WILL ALMOST HAVE TO CALL SHOTS TO ENSURE THIS. SINCE GOA CONGRESS LACKING IN POPULAR LEADERSHIP, FORMULA MIGH BE DEVISED WHEREBY MRS. KAKODKAR BECOMES CHIEF MIN PROVIDED SHE AND MGP JOIN CONGRESS. IN WHICH EVENT A FEW POWER SEEKERS IN UGP ARE LIKELY SEE LIGHT AND CLIMB ON BANDWAGON. WITH CENTRAL BACKING AND SUPPORT THIS COULD WORK AS WELL AS SERVE BRING GOA INTO MAINSTREAM INDIAN POLITICS. BANE UNQUOTE

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TAGS: PINT, IN To: STATE

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